

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Emergency Order No. 1-RS-H-17-05

Issued at Yakutat, Tuesday, July 5, 2005

Effective 12:01 A.M.
Date: Wednesday, July 6, 2005

Expiration Date: 11:59 P.M. Saturday,
December 31, 2005 unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order rescinds Emergency Order 1-RS-H-13-05 issued in Yakutat on June 21. This emergency order increases the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon 16 inches or greater in length to six per day, 12 in possession in the Situk River below the weir, and maintains the bag and possession limit at 2 sockeye salmon per day and in possession upstream of the weir.

REGULATION: The provisions of 5 AAC 47.023 **Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of Southeast Alaska** (6) (E) are added to read:

(6) in the Situk River drainage, ...

(E) upstream of the ADF&G weir, the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon 16 inches or greater in length is two fish.

McKie Campbell
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Robert Johnson
Yakutat Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The Situk River drainage is managed for an optimum escapement goal of 50,000 sockeye salmon, with an escapement goal range of 30,000 to 70,000 spawners. The weir count on July 3 was 38,393 sockeye and the 2005 sockeye escapement is now within the escapement goal range. Recent low water levels are crowding concentrations of sockeye into a few holding areas in the upper portions of the Situk River. Water temperatures may soon reach critical levels and expose the escapement to the associated stress of elevated water temperatures in the upper reaches of Situk River. Bag limit restrictions upstream of the weir are necessary to keep the sockeye escapement within the escapement goal range.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region 1 Office of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, P. O. Box 240020, Douglas, AK 99824, (907) 465-4270.